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6 March 1952

MEMORANDUM FOR: CHIEF, WAR PLANS DIVISION

SUBJECT : Status of Covert Psychological War Planning for Hot War

REFERENCE : Dispatch [REDACTED] dated 15 January 1952

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1. In outline, the ope planning situation shapes up as follows:

a. PY Division is primarily responsible for planning and supervising cold war covert operations.

b. WP Division is primarily responsible for planning and supervising hot war operations.

There exists at present an Ope Strategic Plan which includes Area Division Plans, Country Plans, and Operational Annexes for both the cold war and hot war periods.

2. Recent reorganization which divided the cold war and hot war planning functions has pointed up the fact that the situation is not a "black and white" one, and present attention is focused as follows:

a. WP Division has a secondary planning and guidance role to play in developing hot war assets during the cold war phase and in recommending means for the quick conversion of cold war assets to hot war use. In addition, there is often need for utilizing hot war techniques during the cold war phase (countersabotage, etc.)

b. PY Division has a secondary planning and guidance role to play in hot war with respect to covert psychological warfare in support of military objectives. Covert psychological warfare in hot war will concentrate also in weakening enemy and satellite forces, inducing resistance to enemy occupation, slow-downs, etc. In addition, PY Division has a secondary responsibility in planning for and influencing covertly the establishment of friendly governments in the post-war period, and in inducing support and cooperation for U. S. foreign policy objectives.

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3. At present

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3. At present consideration is being given to exploring staff responsibilities concerning 2.a., above. Once this situation has been clarified and acted upon, the matter of covert psychological warfare planning for hot war will be given priority consideration by ope planners. In the meantime, however, the covert psychological warfare annex to the Transition Plan has been revised and rewritten by the Psychological Staff Division, and it is likely that the projected revision of the covert psychological warfare annex for hot war will be an amplification of this transition annex. It is suggested that the transition annex be used by CINCPAC as a guidance document for the covert psychological warfare annex to CINCPAC's hot war plan.


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Chief
Psychological Staff Division

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